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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4826
SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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SECDEF FOR ASD(C3I)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL MARR NATO
SUBJECT: PROPOSED HIGH LEVEL FOUR POWER MEETING ON TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS

REF: STATE 155931 DTG 052223Z JUL 77

SUMMARY: FRANCE, GERMANY, AND THE UK HAVE AGREED TO A HIGH LEVEL MEETING TO DISCUSS SECDEF'S PROPOSAL TO ACCELERATE INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS. WE WILL PROCEED WITH FINAL ARRANGEMENTS UPON RECEIPT OF GUIDANCE ON LOCATION, DATE, AND OBJECTIVES OF MEETING. ACTION REQUESTED: COMMENT BY AMEMBASSY BONN AND LONDON ON ABILITY OF EACH TO HOST MEETING, AND WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN REFTEL, WE HAVE BEGUN TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HON. G. DINNEEN, ASD(C3I), TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM FRANCE, GERMANY, AND THE UK. (THE PUR-
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POSE OF THE MEETING IS TO OBTAIN HIGH LEVEL SUPPORT OF THESE ALLIES FOR THE SECDEF'S PROPOSAL TO ACCELERATE INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.) ALL THREE OF OUR ALLIES HAVE INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO MEET SUBSEQUENT TO AUGUST 15, 1977. HOWEVER, OTHER DETAILS MUST BE RESOLVED.

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2. WE HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE MEETING BE IN BRUSSELS. GERMANY OPPOSES BRUSSELS AS THE MEETING SITE, FEARING UNFAVORABLE REACTION FROM THE ALLIES NOT INCLUDED. WE RECOMMEND AGAINST HAVING THE MEETING IN PARIS OR WASHINGTON, THUS LEAVING LONDON OR BONN AS THE MOST FAVORABLE LOCATION. INASMUCH AS THE US HAS ASKED FOR THE MEETING, WE BELIEVE THAT THE US SHOULD HOST IT. THUS, WE RECOMMEND THAT IT BE HELD IN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BONN OR LONDON.

3. FRANCE AND THE UK HAVE AGREED TO MEET ANYTIME AFTER AUG 15. THE PRINCIPAL GERMAN REP CAN MEET ON AUG 15, 16, 17 22, 23, 24 OR 29. HOWEVER, AUG 15 IS A EUROPEAN HOLIDAY, SO IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO AVOID THAT DATE. WE SUGGEST AUG 22 IF DR DINNEEN MUST MINIMIZE HIS TIME AWAY FROM WASHINGTON.

4. GERMANY WAS SOMEWHAT CONCERNED WITH REPRESENTATION. ITS REP WILL BE DR TRIENES, DEPUTY TO MR EBERHARDT, THE GERMAN ARMAMENTS DIRECTOR. (GERMANY CONSIDERS DR DINNEEN TO BE A DEPUTY TO DR PERRY FOR THIS MEETING.) FURTHER, DR TRIENES BELIEVES THAT FRANCE AND THE UK SHOULD BE RE-PRESENTED BY GEN CAUCHIE AND MR MCLEAN, RESPECTIVELY, TO PROVIDE COMPARABLE LEVELS FROM EACH NATION. FRANCE HAS INDICATED THAT ITS REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE ING. ALBERGE, WHO ALSO WAS THE REP TO THE TRI SERVICE GROUP ON C-E E-QUIPMENT. THE UK HAS DELAYED NAMING ITS REPS PENDING
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RECEIPT OF FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE NATURE OF THE MEET-ING (DISCUSSED BELOW). BASED ON COMMENTS FROM GERMANY AND THE UK, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE MEETING BE LIMITED TO THE PRINCIPAL REP AND NOT MORE THAN TWO ADVISERS.

5. ALL THREE OF OUR ALLIES HAVE ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE MEETING. THE UK PUT IT MOST SUCCINCTLY: WHAT DOES DR DINNEEN INTEND TO DISCUSS, AND WHAT DOES HE HOPE TO ACHIEVE? THE UK WILL DETERMINE ITS REPRESENTATION BASED ON THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS. WE HAVE INFORM-ALLY TOLD LOCAL REPS THAT THE US WILL BE SEEKING NOT ONLY A COMMITMENT TO GIVE SERIOUS AND OBJECTIVE CONSIDERATION TO ADOPTING APPROACHES WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THE STUDY. WE REQUEST, HOWEVER, THAT WASHINGTON PROVIDE ITS VIEWS IN ANSWER TO THESE QUESTIONS FROM THE ALLIES.

6. WE WILL CONTINUE WITH FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS MEET-ING IF SO DIRECTED AND UPON RECEIPT OF GUIDANCE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: A. AMEMBASSY BONN AND LONDON COMMENT ON ACCEPTABILITY OF HOSTING THE PROPOSED MEETING. B. WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.BENNETT

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